

**From:** John MacLeod  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 12/9/01 10:52pm  
**Subject:** Proposed Settlement of Microsoft Antitrust Suit

To Department of Justice:

I am a professional computer consultant with a Master of Science degree in Computer Science and 16 years in the computer industry.

I share the opinion of many computer industry professionals that the proposed settlement is not harsh enough, and leaves Microsoft quite free to repeat its past history of abuse of the market. Since emerging as the market leader in the PC operating system industry in the mid 1980's, Microsoft has continuously abused its monopolist position by hiding the core hooks of its Windows platform from its competitors large and small.

As a result, the PC software consumer has been forced to accept a reduced number of alternatives not only in the OS, but also in applications and utilities. The Windows platform is notoriously less reliable, bloated and expensive than alternative OS platforms such as Unix or Linux.

It is all too clear that many great products have been terminated pre-maturely by Microsoft's monopolistic lockout of the OS.

I would ask that the Department of Justice reconsider the need for punitive damages more commensurate with the harm the Microsoft monopoly has done to the industry and, by extension, to the country's economy.

Respectfully,

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